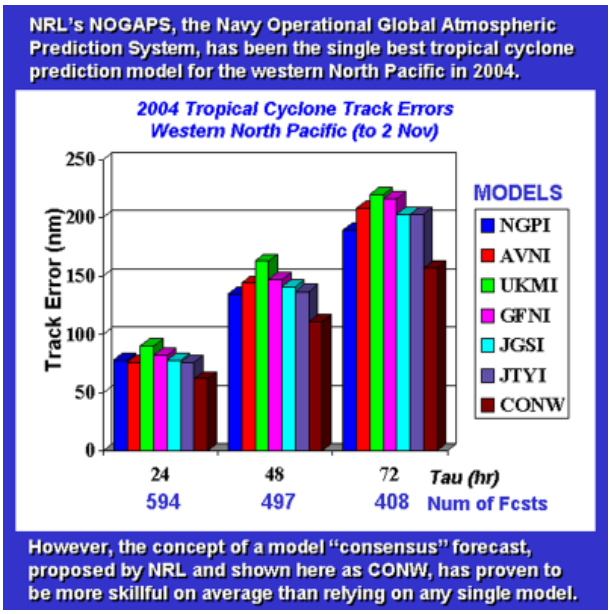
CONSENSUS TROPICAL CYCLONE TRACK FORECASTS



A consensus tropical cyclone (TC) track forecast is formed by simply averaging the forecast positions obtained from a selected group of numerical weather prediction (NWP) models with proven skill at TC track forecasting. On average, the improvement in skill provided by consensus TC track forecasts over the forecasts from individual NWP models is 12-24 hours. This technique was first demonstrated by NRL in 1998 and has become the foundation for TC track forecasting at both the National Hurricane Center (NHC) and the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC).

Advantages/Features Include:

- Significant improvement to TC track forecasts
- Increased availability of TC track forecast guidance
- Estimations of TC track forecast uncertainty
- Easy generation on the ATCF at NHC and JTWC

Applications Include:

- TC track forecasting
- TC track forecast uncertainty guidance

Points of Contact

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